



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/608,685

06/27/2003

Brandon Burrell

60046.0055USU1

8303

53377 7590 05/12/2009  
HOPE BALDAUFF HARTMAN, LLC  
1720 PEACHTREE STREET, N.W  
SUITE 1010  
ATLANTA, GA 30309

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LE V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2174

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/12/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/608,685	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BURRELL, BRANDON	
	<b>Examiner</b> LE NGUYEN	<b>Art Unit</b> 2174	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5-15 and 19-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5-15 and 19-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to an amendment filed 1/30/09.
2. Claims 1, 5-15 and 19-22 are pending in this application; and, claims 1, 9, 12 and 15 are independent claims. Claims 2-4 and 16-18 have been cancelled. This action is made Final.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 5, 7-10, 12-15, 19, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Piwonka et al. (US #6,467,038, "Piwonka") in view of *Teach Yourself Web Publishing with HTML 4 in a Week* ("HTML").

As per claim 1, Piwonka teaches a method of providing a BIOS generated display of strings in a computer comprising providing a set of BIOS-readable strings to be displayed by the BIOS during BIOS activity (figs. 2-4; col. 6, lines 48-65; col. 26, lines 9-28), providing a first string of the set to be displayed in a first format and, when displaying the first string of the set, the display engine of the BIOS generates the display of the first string with the portion of the first string displayed in the first format (figs. 2-4;

Art Unit: 2174

col. 6, lines 27-65; col. 26, lines 9-28). Piwonka does not explicitly disclose providing a first escape code within a first string of the set wherein the first escape code provides an indication of at least a portion of the first string that is to be displayed in a first format so that upon encountering and interpreting the first escape code by a display engine, the first format is determined and the first string with the portion of the first string in the first format is generated for display and after encountering a second escape code, switching the format. HTML teaches providing a tag/first escape code within a first string of the set wherein the first escape code provides an indication of at least a portion of the first string that is to be displayed in a first format so that upon encountering and interpreting the first escape code by a display engine, the first format is determined and the first string with the portion of the first string in the first format is generated for display and after encountering a second escape code, switching the format (pages 123-125, 207-208 and 564-566; tags/escape codes, for example, <B>, <U>, <I>, etc., provide an indication that at least a portion of a first string is to be displayed in a first format such as **"September 26, 1996"**, "Sign Here" and *"Inferno"*). HTML further teaches a third escape code within a second string of the set providing an indication of at least a portion of the second string that is to be displayed in a third format (pages 123-125; *disclosed are a plurality of tags/escape codes used such as <B>, <U>, <I>, etc. and a plurality of formats displayed such as **"September 26, 1996"**, "Sign Here", *"Inferno"*, etc.). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of HTML with the method of Piwonka in order to change the appearance of text or string so it is somehow different from the surrounding strings.*

As per claim 5, the modified Piwonka teaches a method of providing a BIOS generated display of strings in a computer wherein the first format is a bold typeface (Piwonka: figs. 2-4; col. 6, lines 48-65; col. 26, lines 9-28; HTML: pages 123-125 and 564).

As per claim 7, the modified Piwonka teaches a method of providing a BIOS generated display of strings in a computer wherein the first format is an underlined typeface, the method further comprising displaying the portion of the first string in the underlined typeface by controlling each bottom row pixel of each character of the portion (Piwonka: figs. 2-4; col. 6, lines 48-65; col. 26, lines 9-28; HTML: pages 123-125 and 566).

As per claim 8, the modified Piwonka teaches a method of providing a BIOS generated display of strings in a computer wherein the first format is a first text color and a first background color (HTML: pages 207-208).

As per claims 9 and 10, Piwonka teaches a method of providing a BIOS generated display of strings in a computer comprising during power on self-test (POST) or a BIOS SETUP, providing strings including text to be displayed by the BIOS (figs. 2-4; col. 6, lines 27-65; col. 26, lines 9-28), providing a first string of the set to be displayed in a first format and, when displaying the first string of the set, the display engine of the BIOS generates the display of the first string with the portion of the first string displayed in the first format during BIOS SETUP (figs. 2-4; col. 6, lines 48-65; col. 26, lines 9-28) and, moreover, Piwonka provides for control of what strings are displayed (col. 7, line 63 through col. 8, line 2) and, as shown in figs. 3-4 including the

respective source code listing, what language is displayed outside of the usual data stream (embedded in the data stream but not part of it), i.e. escape code. Piwonka does not explicitly disclose providing escape codes wherein the escape codes provide an indication of at least a portion of the string that is to be displayed in a particular format during parsing so that upon encountering and interpreting an escape code by a display engine, various formats are determined so that first and second strings in their respective formats (including bold typeface) are generated for display. HTML teaches providing escape codes/tags within strings of the set wherein the escape codes provide an indication of at least a portion of the string that is to be displayed in a particular format so that upon encountering and interpreting the escape codes by a display engine, a first and second format is determined and a first string with the portion of the first string in the first format is generated for display and a second string with the portion of the second string in the second format is generated for display (pages 123-125, 207-208 and 564-566; e.g. tag/escape code <B> or <U> provides an indication that at least a portion of a first string is to be displayed in a first format such as “**September 26, 1996**” or “Sign Here”). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of HTML with the method of Piwonka in order to change the appearance of text or string so it is somehow different from the surrounding strings.

As per claims 12-14, Piwonka teaches a method of providing a BIOS generated display of strings during BIOS activity in a computer comprising during power on self-test (POST) or a BIOS SETUP, providing strings including text to be displayed by the

Art Unit: 2174

BIOS (figs. 2-4; col. 6, lines 27-65; col. 26, lines 9-28), providing a first string of the set to be displayed in a first format and, when displaying the first string of the set, the display engine of the BIOS generates the display of the first string with the portion of the first string displayed in the first format during BIOS SETUP (figs. 2-4; col. 6, lines 27-65; col. 26, lines 9-28; BIOS displays strings in text as a default mode). Piwonka does not explicitly disclose providing escape codes wherein the escape codes provide an indication of at least a portion of the string that is to be displayed in a particular format during parsing so that upon encountering and interpreting an escape code by a display engine, various formats are determined so that first and second strings in their respective formats (including underlined typeface, which are generated by controlling each pixel of a low row of each character of a portion of a string) are generated for display and switching over to a graphics mode. HTML teaches providing escape codes/tags within strings of the set wherein the escape codes provide an indication of at least a portion of the string that is to be displayed in a particular format so that upon encountering and interpreting the escape codes by a display engine, a first and second format is determined and a first string with the portion of the first string in the first format is generated for display and a second string with the portion of the second string in the second format is generated for display (pages 123-125, 207-208 and 564-566; e.g. tag/escape code <B> or <U> provides an indication that at least a portion of a first string is to be displayed in a first format such as “**September 26, 1996**” or “Sign Here” wherein the underlined typeface is generated by controlling each pixel of a low row of each character of the string). Furthermore, since Piwonka’s BIOS displays strings in text as a

default mode, in order to display strings in formatted mode using tags for formatting text as taught by HTML, it is inherent for the computer to go to graphics mode in order to display the strings and given that it cannot be done in text mode. Like any software that has access to hardware, HTML and BIOS software has access to the graphics card, which includes a graphics mode, via switching to the graphics card. It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of HTML with the method of Piwonka in order to change the appearance of text or string so it is somehow different from the surrounding strings.

Claim 15 is similar in scope to claim 1 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 19 is similar in scope to claim 5 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 21 is similar in scope to claim 7 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 22 is similar in scope to claim 8 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

5. Claims 6, 11 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Piwonka et al. (US #6,467,038, "Piwonka") in view of *Teach Yourself Web Publishing with HTML 4 in a Week* ("HTML") as applied to claims 5, 10 and 19 respectively, and further in view of Hays et al. (US #4,729,678, "Hays").

As per claim 6, although the modified Piwonka teaches a method of providing a BIOS generated display of strings in a computer comprising displaying the portion of the



first string in the bold typeface (HTML: pages 123-125 and 564; e.g. *tag/escape code* `<B>` provides an indication that at least a portion of a first string is to be displayed in a first format such as “**September 26, 1996**”), Piwonka does not explicitly disclose the portion of the first string in the bold typeface is displayed by shifting a copy of each character pixel row data by one pixel position and performing a logical OR on each character row data with the shifted copy to control pixels that produce the display of each character of the portion. Hays teaches a portion of the first string in the bold typeface is displayed by shifting a copy of each character pixel equivalent row data by one pixel equivalent position and performing a logical OR on each character row data with the shifted copy to control pixels, or equivalence thereof, that produce the display of each character of the portion (col. 1, lines 9-16). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of HTML with the method of the modified Piwonka in order to provide users with an implementation preference.

Claims 11 and 20 are individually similar in scope to claim 6 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

### ***Response to Arguments***

6. Upon further consideration, applicant's arguments filed 1/30/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argued:

(a) To yield a predictable result, applicant submits that it would not have been common sense to combine such disparate references given that HTML discloses a way to control the rendering of Web pages, not BIOS code, and Piwonka does not disclose any ability for its BIOS to read or understand HTML code.

(b) Piwonka discloses that the BIOS transitions from the default mode of the BIOS to the graphics mode of the BIOS in order to display text in a format specified by the BIOS-readable escape code. HTML does not disclose any BIOS whatsoever, much less a BIOS with a default mode and a graphics mode. Therefore, neither Piwonka nor HTML describes the default mode of the BIOS and the graphics mode of the BIOS.

The Office disagrees for the following reasons:

Per (a) and in response to applicant's argument that HTML discloses a way to control the rendering of Web pages, not BIOS code, and Piwonka does not disclose any ability for its BIOS to read or understand HTML code, the test for obviousness is not whether the features of a secondary reference may be bodily incorporated into the structure of the primary reference; nor is it that the claimed invention must be expressly suggested in any one or all of the references. Rather, the test is what the combined teachings of the references would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981).

Per (b), while Piwonka teaches a default mode in a BIOS environment, the teaching extracted from HTML was for the feature of displaying another format via utilization of escape command(s) and, moreover, switching an initial first default format to another second graphics format via the escape command(s) (pages 123-125, 207-208 and 564-566), such escape code commands provides a signal that a change outside the usual data stream is to take place.

### ***Conclusion***

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

### ***Inquires***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lê Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)

Art Unit: 2174

**272-4068.** The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dennis Chow, can be reached at (571) 272-7767.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

lvn  
Patent Examiner  
May 9, 2009

/DENNIS-DOON CHOW/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2174